

## United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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## FORMER NAVY LIEUTENANT CHARGED WITH SELLING WEAPONS-MOUNTED INFRARED LASER-AIMING DEVICES STOLEN FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, KEVIN DELLI-COLLI, Acting Special Agent-in-Charge of the New York Office of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE"), and KENNETH SIEGLER, Resident Agent-in-Charge, U.S. Department of Defense, Office of Inspector General, Defense Criminal Investigative Service ("DOD-OIG/DCIS"), announced that DAVID RAYMOND CARMEL, formerly a United States Navy lieutenant, was charged in an Indictment late yesterday afternoon with the theft and subsequent sale of AN/PEQ-2A weapons-mounted infrared laser-aiming sources ("PEQs") from the United States Department of Defense. According to the Indictment and Complaint filed in Manhattan federal court:

CARMEL served as a lieutenant in the United States Navy on active duty as the supply officer to the USS Shrike, a minesweeper stationed at the Naval Station in Ingleside, Texas. In that position, CARMEL had access to inventories of the supply depots of all of the United States armed forces worldwide. As the supply officer, CARMEL caused the USS Shrike to purchase hundreds of PEQs, machine gun barrels, night vision goggles, and

various machine gun parts through the Naval supply system, even though the USS Shrike had no need or use for such equipment. Accordingly, CARMEL was relieved of his duties as supply officer for misuse of his authority and misappropriation of government property. On November 30, 2005, CARMEL separated from the Navy Reserves. On three occasions between approximately May 2006 and February 2007, CARMEL sold PEQ devices to an undercover law enforcement agent, which devices had previously belonged to the United States Department of Defense. (Under DOD regulations, PEQs no longer needed are to be rendered inoperable.)

If convicted, CARMEL faces a maximum of ten years' imprisonment on each of the three counts of the Indictment.

In addition to the criminal charges pending in the Southern District of New York, CARMEL is currently in custody on federal weapons charges in the Western District of Wisconsin. Before his arrest on May 30, CARMEL, 32, lived in Gilman, Wisconsin.

This case is being prosecuted by the Major Crimes Unit of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. Assistant United States Attorneys PETER B. SOBOL and CHRISTINE MEDING are in charge of the prosecution.

Mr GARCIA praised ICE and DOD-OIG/DCIS for their work in this case.

The charges and allegations contained in the Indictment and the Complaint are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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